UTs provide for teaching languages other than the main language of the concerned State or UT, but facilities for such teaching and for exercise of choice by students vary, depending on the number of students belonging to particular linguistic group and availability of language teachers.

Under the schemes of Financial Assistance for Publications in Indian Languages and in English, and scheme of Indian Languages Promotion, the Government of India provide assistance for development of all Indian languages, including those listed in the Eighth Schedule.

Major Sanskrit Institutions

1503. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to identify major and important institutions, not affiliated to any university, engaged in the promotion of Sanskrit, for financial grants to them on the pattern of universities or institutions regarded as deemed universities ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Govt. to identify any institution for financial assistance on the pattern of universities and deemed to be universities due to financial constraints.

Modernisation of traditional curriculam of Sanskrit Education

1504. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to modernise the traditional curriculam of Sanskrit education ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Government has proposed to modernise the traditional curriculam of Sanskrit Education in Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalayas, Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan and deemed to be Sanskrit Universities at New Delhi and Tirupati in the following manner :

(1) Introduction of English, a modern Indian language and a subject of the Humanities alongwith the main subject i.e. Sanskrit.

(2) Increase in the duration of studies on the lines of 10+2+3 system of education.

(3) Introduction of critical studies on the subject alongwith the teaching of classical texts.

(4) Introduction of sports and vocational studies, and

(5) Providing teachers of modern subjects in the traditional Sanskrit Educational institutions.

2. Besides, under the scheme for Development of Sanskrit, provisions have been made for financial assistance to States/UTs for modernisation of Sanskrit Pathshalas in the traditional education system and appointment of Teachers for teaching selected modern subjects in the traditional Sanskrit Pathshalas.

International Institute of Indology

1505. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish an International Institute of Indology to provide facilities for inter-disciplinary resources in Sanskrit and other Indian and foreign languages ; and

(b) if so, by when the project is likely to be completed and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?